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National Records a Success

ONE of the most satisfactory reports presented to the breeders' meetings last week was that of the National record committee. If further evidence were needed to prove the unqualified success of the nationalization of the records, this would supply it. The report was a complete one and showed that the members of the committee have the best interests of the breeders which they represent at heart.

We have not space to enlarge much on the report. A few figures, however, will show that from a dollar and cents point of view the nationalization scheme has been a distinct success. For the eight months, beginning May 1st, during which the nationalization scheme was in force, there was a net saving in the cost of recording to the different breed associations of \$626.15, \$418.69 of this being credited to Shorthorns. But this is not all. In the cost of printing the herd books and in postage and expenses there was a total saving of \$2,760.82, as compared with the old order of things. Of this amount, \$1,711.94 is credited to the Shorthorn Association, \$637.96 to the Swine Breeders' Association, and proportionate amounts to the other associations. A saving of \$661.10 was effected in the printing of Volume XXI of the Shorthorn Herd Book, as compared with the previous one, though the number of registrations was about the same and 3,000 copies instead of 2,000 as heretofore, were issued.

The report recommended that the members of any affiliated record association in any one province shall be entitled to one representative on the board of directors of such association for 100 registrations until the limit of fifteen directors for the whole association shall be reached when the basis of the representation shall be readjusted equitably. The report also asked for more power for the record committee in controlling the affairs of the record office. That their recommendations and requests were approved of in every particular by the associations to which they were presented speaks volumes for the confidence which breeders have in their committee. It is only fair to say, however, that in all their requests nothing was asked for that would in any way lessen the control of the breeders over their own records.

Two years ago the nationalization scheme was launched. Today it is a working reality and there are few who would return to the old order of things. The result of the eight months under the new regime augurs

well for the future. With an increasing revenue and a system of registration that reaches out to every part of the Dominion, much greater things may be looked for in the development of our live stock industry than the past has given us.

Our Live Stock Interests

Not for many years have more harmony and good will prevailed at the annual gatherings of the breeders than was shown at the recent meetings. The keenest interest was shown in the proceedings by members who were most enthusiastic in regard to every proposal looking to the advancement of the breed they represent. It is worthy of note that in horses, cattle, sheep and swine never has the demand for purebred stock been better and the business on a surer footing. This will apply to the dairy as well as the beef breeds of cattle, to light as well as heavy horses, and to nearly all kinds of sheep and swine. The future is bright and breeders may well look forward in confidence to what is before them.

Among the important proposals that came before the annual meeting was that emanating from the Hon. Mr. Monteith, Minister of Agriculture, asking for the appointment of an advisory board to assist the Department of Agriculture in all matters relating to agriculture. The objects to be attained as set forth in Mr. Monteith's letter, are: First, that the Minister might have a convenient way of consulting live stock men and of giving the benefit of their advice to the live stock interests of the province; second, to enable the department to keep in close touch with the live stock interests of the province, and third, to organize a body of the various interests of live stock to take the place of the general association. A board so constituted and composed of the right kind of men, if responsibility is not shifted too much upon it, should enable the Minister of Agriculture to do effective work for the live stock interests of Ontario.

With increased revenue, resulting from nationalizing the records, the associations were more liberal in their grants to fairs than usual. This is to be commended. An organization existing for the benefit of any breed or interest should not husband its resources. They should be distributed where they will do the most good. The decision of the Shorthorn Association to widen and enlarge the standard for recording to Volume 40 of Coates' Herd Book is a step in the right direction.

The promoters of the stallion show will welcome the building of an arena. While the Repository has served a good purpose in the initial stages of the show, it does not provide for expansion, either in regard to exhibits or visitors. A new arena, capable of housing both animals and people in comfort, would give to the show an impetus that would make it second to no other show of its kind on this continent.

Trade with the Argentine

While there is and will be for many years to come a good market at home for nearly all kinds of Canadian purebred stock, the developments of other markets should not be neglected. In Cuba and the West Indies, in Mexico and in the republics of South America, there are opportunities for the disposal of good stock that should be taken advantage of. During the past few weeks Argentine buyers have been in Canada endeavoring to secure some choice stock to send to that country. What success they are having we do not know, but we understand that some breeders were inclined to put their selling price at too high a level to admit of a profitable business being done.

Some rather interesting information regarding the Argentine is given in the "Yorkshire Post" by Mr Arthur S. Gibson, of Ruddington, England, who visited that country recently. Mr. Gibson acted as judge at several of the shows there. As large numbers of animals are brought to the shows for sale, the quality of the animals on exhibition was not so uniform as it otherwise would be. One bull, which, Mr. Gibson said, would have swept the boards had he been exhibited at English shows, sold for 3,400gs. That trade at these shows is brisk is shown by the fact that one breeder alone sold twenty-five bulls at the Palermo Show for 500gs. each. Good quality only is wanted, both in Shorthorns and Lincoln sheep, the breeds that the people of Argentina are buying most of at the present time. Mr. Gibson expects that that country in the near future will export large quantities of pork and bacon. Purebred hogs will then be in great demand and will bring prices on as great a scale as those now paid for Shorthorns and Lincoln sheep.

Get Your Seed Grain Ready

It is none too early to begin the selection of seed for next spring's sowing. Only good clean seed should be sown for any crop. The propagation of weeds from year to year is